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Letter dated 18 December 2000 from the permanent representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 6 December 2000, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent representative

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Annex to the letter dated 18 December 2000 from the permanent representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey the texts of the resolution and the paragraph on Cyprus of the Final Communiqué adopted at the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 12 to 14 November 2000 (see appendices).

The resolution and the Final Communiqué reaffirm, inter alia, the political equality of the two parties in Cyprus and call on them to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status in order to pave the way for a lasting settlement.

The resolution also urges the member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot people and to support their rightful claim for the right to be heard in all international forums where the Cyprus question comes up for discussion.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its appendices could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Appendix I

The paragraph on Cyprus in the Final Communiqué of the Ninth Session of the of the Islamic Summit Conference, Doha, State of Qatar, 12-14 November 2000

The situation in Cyprus

62. The Conference expressed firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and reaffirmed its resolutions and declarations on Cyprus. It called for a just and negotiated settlement that would respect their legitimate aspirations. **It emphasized the key importance of respecting the principle of equal political status in promoting a negotiated settlement acceptable to both the Turkish Cypriot and the Greek Cypriot sides and to this effect called on the two sides to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status in order to pave the way to a lasting solution.** In this respect, the Conference welcomed the statement made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 12 September 2000 at the outset of the fourth round of proximity talks.

Appendix II

Resolution on Cyprus adopted at the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, Doha, State of Qatar, 12-14 November 2000

The Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 12 to 14 November 2000,

Reaffirming the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus, which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus who constitute an integral part of the Islamic world,

Recalling that in more than 35 years since the establishment of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), it has not been possible to achieve a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus problem,

Calling for a just political settlement by respecting the legitimate aspirations of the Turkish Cypriot side,

Emphasizing in this regard the key importance of respecting the principles of equal political status in the attainment of a freely negotiated and mutually acceptable solution,

Calling on the two parties in Cyprus to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status in order to pave the way to a lasting settlement on a mutually agreed basis,

Supporting in this regard the opening statement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 12 September 2000, at the start of the fourth round of the proximity talks,

Reiterating its support for the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides,

Welcoming the agreement reached between the two parties in Cyprus to start proximity talks to prepare the ground for meaningful negotiations leading to a comprehensive settlement,

Welcoming in this context the willingness shown by the Turkish Cypriot side for a political and viable settlement by presenting a comprehensive proposal on 31 August 1998,

Regretting that outside developments raising the possibility of European Union membership of the Greek Cypriot side have continued to hamper progress towards a negotiated settlement,

Considering that the building of mutual confidence between the two sides in Cyprus is essential to make progress towards a just and lasting settlement,

Welcoming the fact that the Turkish Cypriot side has accepted the United Nations-sponsored package of military confidence-building measures presented by the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Calling on the Greek Cypriot side to show a reciprocal constructive approach by accepting this proposal,

Considering that the massive arms purchase and the establishment of a military airbase in Paphos as well as the continuing construction of a naval base in Zygi by the Greek Cypriot side further deepen the existing mistrust between the two sides and constitute a threat to peace and stability in the island and the region,

Recalling its resolution adopted at the Eighth Session of the Islamic Conference as well as resolution No. 16/8-P(IS), in which it decided on the enhancement of the participation of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus in the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Having considered in this context the request of the Turkish Cypriot side for full membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Expressing its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Cyprus,

1. *Reaffirms* the total equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side by side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to govern, exploit, oppress or threaten the other;

2. *Urges* the member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and with a view to helping them to overcome the inhuman isolation which has been imposed upon them to increase and expand their relations in all fields, and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports;

3. *Decides* to support, until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international forums where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to carry out the necessary contacts with the Islamic Development Bank with a view to seeking the ways and means of the latter's assistance for the development projects of the Turkish Cypriot side;

5. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the request of the Turkish Cypriot side of Cyprus for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference.